

Taxpayer Group Urges Government to Slow Spending to Avoid Tax Increases

Hard-pressed property owners in Los Angeles county have just finished paying the second half of a property tax bill for 1957-58 which averages, county-wide, \$122.82 for every man, woman, and child in the county. S. J. Arnold, general manager of California Taxpayers' association, said today.

The second half of the 1957-58 property tax bill was delinquent April 10, he stated.

Total levy on property throughout the county for 1957-58 reached \$707,224,224. Of the sum \$190,504,947 was for general

county purposes, \$121,697,277 for city government purposes, \$329,280,483 for school districts, and \$65,741,517 for special districts in the county.

Comparison of 1957-58 property tax levies in the county with those for 1952-53 shows that the increase in levy is far in excess of the increase in population in the county, Arnold declared.

Population of the county now is 21 per cent greater than in 1952-53.

Per capita levy, county-wide, on property, is 53 per cent greater.

Total levy for county government purposes is up 85 per cent; for cities, up 60 per cent; for school districts, up 94 per cent; for special districts, up 94 per cent.

"Property tax bills for 1958-59—the bills property owners will get next November—are in the making right now in the budgets the local governments in the county already have in process," Arnold pointed out.

"If property owners want to prevent another big increase in property tax bills for next year," he declared, "they should:

"1. Urge that the salary schedules for local government employees be held at their current levels.

"2. Insist there be no increase in level of present services by local governments.

"3. Demand the elimination of unnecessary government activities by every level of government.

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HONOR GRADUATE—Donald N. Adler, M. D., right, received the outstanding intern award Friday at the graduation of 32 interns and 29 resident physicians from Dr. Leonard A. West, medical director of Harbor General Hospital. —Press Photo

Camperships in YMCA Program Still Available

The Torrance YMCA announced today that there are still openings for Big Pines camp for boys 9 to 12 and Camp Mozunder for girls 9 to 12.

One hundred and twenty boy campers will go to Big Pines July 5 to 12. This camp is located in the Angeles Forest on the east side of the San Gabriel mountains and features a new heated swimming pool, horseback riding, archery, handicrafts, campfires, hiking and campcraft. The program is conducted on a cabin-group basis so that each camper gets plenty of individual attention. Seven campers and a leader make up each group. Camp provides an excellent opportunity for the boys to run and play and let off steam, while enjoying new friendship and getting acquainted with nature.

Camp Mozunder for girls will be Aug. 9 to 16. This camp is perched on the side of Job's Peak near Crestline and offers 100 acres of cedar and pine trees and a natural wild life sanctuary that is ideal for teaching campers about the wonders of nature. Swimming, hiking, riding, handicraft, campfires, games and other fun activities are planned for the girls at this session.

Further information may be obtained by calling the Torrance YMCA, FAirfax 8-1272.

on Monday nights at the Civic Auditorium. They will open the Sunday afternoon park program series with a concert at the Torrance Park on June 29 at 2 p.m. This complete summer music program is sponsored jointly by the Torrance-Area Youth Band and the Torrance Recreation Department.

Summer Band Programs to Enlist Elementary, High School Musicians

The "Fun Through Music" program, conducted in the Torrance Parks last summer, is being offered again this year. Jim Davidson, music teacher in the Torrance Elementary Schools, will conduct this program, assisted by Bob Salisbury, music student at Torrance High School. The climax of this activity will be a Combined-Parks Concert on August 17 in the Torrance Park Band Shell. To prepare for this concert, a Junior Band for students of elementary school age will be organized, which will rehearse on Thursday morning from 9 to 11 at the Torrance Civic Auditorium, beginning June 26. Children interested in these activities should contact the Torrance Recreation Department, 3031 Torrance blvd., for further information.

Cadet Band Organized

Of special interest is the formation of the new Torrance Cadet Band for instrumentalists of high school age. Eighth grade students will be allowed to perform in this group the first year. This band, under the direction of James Van Dyck and Jim Davidson, will rehearse on Thursday evening, in the Civic Auditorium, beginning June 19. Summer activities for this band will include the Long Beach "Miss Universe" Pageant, the Torrance "Ranchero

Days" Parade, and the Santa Barbara Fiesta. Anyone interested in joining the Cadet Band should contact Van Dyck at FA 8-5273, or Davidson at the Torrance Recreation Department, FA 8-4109.

Sunday Programs in Park

The Concert Band, composed of select high school and college students, will rehearse regularly

San of Photos from Licenses Urged by Club

The Automobile Club of Southern California today recommended the elimination from the proposed State Budget of all appropriations to pay the cost of placing photographs on drivers licenses.

In a communication to members of the Legislature, the Club pointed out that in the next fiscal year alone the expenditure for this purpose would be approximately a half million dollars and that in the next few years the expenditure would total literally millions of dollars of motorists taxes. These funds would otherwise be available for much needed highway development.

Church Buys Additional Land

An additional acre of land, now in escrow, has been purchased by St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Lomita. This makes a total of three and a half acres purchased over a period of time for the purpose of new church buildings.

Educational buildings will be erected first and it is hoped to have building started by June, 1959.

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